

Soldier's Pocket Field Guide



**Joint Readiness Training Center
at
Fort Polk**



Soldier's Environmental Compliance Field Card

The prevention of environmental damage at Fort Polk is a soldier's responsibility. This field card provides you with information on how to handle environmental concerns you are likely to face. Only through responsible use of training areas will we be able to preserve Fort Polk as a quality training area.

Range Fires

- Put out the fire if you can.
- Report all range fires to range control immediately.
- Provide 6 digit grid coordinate location.
- Monitor the fire until the fire department arrives.
- Keep all personnel at a safe distance from the fire.
- Be prepared to assist in controlling the fire if necessary.

Policing Training Area

- Return all waste to approved collection sites.
- Burning or burying waste is **prohibited**.
- Police all brass, wire and litter prior to departure.
- Refill all excavations.
- Contact range control for clearance inspection before leaving the range.

RCW Colonies

The Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) is an endangered species and is protected by federal law. RCW nesting trees are marked with a one meter thick white band. The trees are protected by a 62 meter buffer zone that is marked by orange lands and yellow diamond-shaped "RCW – Do Not Disturb" signs. Training is restricted within the buffer zone.

- Vehicle traffic is prohibited in the buffer zone except on established roads.
- Transient foot traffic **is allowed**.
- Bivouacking, digging and cutting vegetation are prohibited in the buffer zone.
- No communications, TOW, or concertina wire will be strung inside the buffer zone.
- Use of CS gas within 100 meters of cavity trees is prohibited.
- Any activity which disturbs, endangers, or damages the environment of the RCW is prohibited.

Vehicle Movement

- Stay on established trails during movement to training area.
- Obey posted speed limits (25 mph in the training areas).
- Avoid destroying vegetation.
- Cross streams at authorized points only.

Hazardous Substances & POL

A hazardous substance is defined as a chemical which is harmful to the environment and is regulated if it is spilled or released. If these materials are properly handled they pose little threat. However, accidents will happen. The proper response will prevent an accident from becoming a major environmental disaster.

- Minimize the use of hazardous materials.
- Handle POL with care.
- Carry a supply of absorbent to clean up spills.

If a spill does occur notify your observer controller (OC) immediately and provide the following information:

1. Your name and rank.
 2. Location of the spill.
 3. Type of spill.
 4. Size of spill.
 5. Report any high risk situations, i.e. spill in a stream, fire, danger to local population.
- Take steps to contain the spill.
 - Failure to report a hazardous substance or POL spill is a federal offense.

Important Phone Numbers

Range Control – Bldg 8276	
Phone number	5445/5336
Radio frequency	40.95
DPW Environmental – Bldg 2503	
Phone number	2815/2861
Fire Department	
Phone number	118
Medivac	
Radio frequency	42.50

Off Limits & Restricted Use Areas

Stay out of off limits area. They include:

- Archeological sites.
- Impact areas.
- Streams must be crossed at authorized points only.

Restricted use of areas have been marked by DPW with bright orange stakes which are marked with the labels shown below, indicating restricted activities.

